

Current Set of Claims:

1-34 Canceled

35. (New) An aqueous adhesive composition comprising (a) an aromatic nitroso compound and (b) an aqueous butadiene polymer latex prepared by emulsion polymerization of at least one butadiene monomer in the presence of a stabilizer selected from styrene sulfonic acid, styrene sulfonate, poly(styrene sulfonic acid) or poly(styrene sulfonate) and an anionic surfactant.

36. (New) An adhesive composition according to claim 35 wherein the butadiene monomer is selected from 2,3-dichloro-1,3-dimethylbutadiene; chloroprene; bromoprene; 2,3-dibrom-1,3-butadiene; 1,1,2-trichlorobutadiene; cyanoprene; or hexachlorobutadiene.

37. (New) An adhesive composition according to claim 36 wherein the butadiene monomer comprises 2,3-dichloro-1, 3-butadiene.

38. (New) An adhesive composition according to claim 35 wherein the stabilizer comprises poly(styrene sulfonate).

39. (New) An adhesive composition according to claim 35 wherein the butadiene polymer is prepared by copolymerization of the dichlorobutadiene with at least one copolymerizable monomer.

40. (New) An adhesive composition according to claim 39 wherein the copolymerizable monomer comprises an α -haloacrylonitrile.

41. (New) An adhesive composition according to claim 35 wherein the butadiene polymer latex is prepared by emulsion polymerization of at least 60 weight percent dichlorobutadiene monomer.

42. (New) The adhesive according to claim 35 further comprising a dispersion of a phenolic resin and a metal oxide.
43. (New) The adhesive according to claim 35 wherein said aromatic nitroso compound is an aromatic hydrocarbon containing at least two nitroso groups attached directly to non-adjacent ring carbon atoms.
44. (New) The adhesive according to claim 43 wherein said aromatic hydrocarbon is selected from benzene, naphthalene, anthracene, and biphenyl.
45. (New) The adhesive according to claim 35, wherein said aromatic nitroso compound contains from 1 to 3 aromatic nuclei, including fused aromatic nuclei, and said compound contains from 2 to 6 nitroso groups attached directly to non-adjacent nuclear carbon atoms.
46. (New) The adhesive according to claim 45 wherein said aromatic nitroso compound is dinitrosobenzene or dinitrosonaphthalene.
47. (New) The adhesive according to claim 45 wherein said aromatic nitroso compound is selected from meta-dinitrosobenzene, para-dinitrosobenzene, meta-dinitrosonaphthalene and para-dinitrosonaphthalene.
48. (New) The adhesive according to claim 45 wherein on said aromatic nuclei, nuclear hydrogen atoms are substituted by a group selected from alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkaryl, arylamine, arylnitroso, amino, and halogen groups.
49. (New) The adhesive according to claim 35 wherein said aromatic nitroso compound is selected from m-dinitrosobenzene, p-dinitrosobenzene, m-dinitrosonaphthalene, p-dinitrosonaphthalene, 2,5-dinitroso-p-cymene, 2-methyl-1,4-dinitrosobenzene, 2-methyl-5-chloro-1,4-dinitrosobenzene, 2-fluoro-1,4-dinitrosobenzene, 2-methoxy-1-3-dinitrosobenzene, 5-chloro-1,3-dinitrosobenzene, 2-benzyl-1,4-dinitrosobenzene, 2-cyclohexyl-1,4-dinitrosobenzene, and combinations thereof.
50. (New) An adhesive consisting essentially of an aromatic nitroso compound, an aqueous butadiene polymer latex prepared by emulsion polymerization of at least one butadiene monomer in the presence of a stabilizer selected from styrene sulfonic acid, styrene

sulfonate, poly(styrene sulfonic acid) or poly(styrene sulfonate) (c) a metal oxide, and (d) at least one additive selected from the group of filler, pigment, dispersing agent, wetting agent, carbon black, and silica.

51. (New) A bonded composite comprising a metal article, an elastomer and the adhesive according to claim 35 between said metal article and said elastomer.
52. (New) The adhesive according to claim 35 further comprising a metal article and elastomer bonded thereto.